

PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

1. A pharmaceutical composition for nasal administration, comprising zolpidem, a prodrug thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a combination thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable nasal carrier in liquid form.

5 2. The composition according to preferred embodiment 1, wherein the composition is a solution of a 2:1 zolpidem / tartrate salt in at least one selected from the group consisting of sterile purified water USP, sterile water for inhalation USP, saline, isotonic saline, and combinations thereof.

10 3. The composition according to preferred embodiment 1, further comprising at least one pH buffer.

4. The composition according to preferred embodiment 1, further comprising at least one penetrating agent.

15 5. The composition according to preferred embodiment 1, wherein the zolpidem is present in an amount ranging from 0.001 mg to about 250 mg.

6. A method for inducing sleep, comprising nasally administering to a subject in need thereof a pharmaceutical composition comprising zolpidem, a prodrug thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a combination thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable nasal carrier in liquid form.

20 7. The method according to preferred embodiment 6, wherein the composition is a solution of a 2:1 zolpidem / tartrate salt in at least one selected from the group consisting of sterile purified water USP, sterile water for inhalation USP, saline, isotonic saline, and combinations thereof.

25 8. The method according to preferred embodiment 6, wherein the composition further comprises at least one pH buffer.

9. The method according to preferred embodiment 6, wherein the composition further comprises at least one penetrating agent.

5 10. The method according to preferred embodiment 6, wherein the zolpidem is present in said composition an amount ranging from 0.001 mg to about 250 mg.